

GENERAL ORDERS, }  
No. 22. }

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, Feb'y 17, 1865.*

The following report of the Board appointed by the President of the United States to examine and correct the quotas of the several States and Districts, under the call for Volunteers of December 19, 1864, is published for the information of all concerned :

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 16, 1865.*

His Excellency ABRAHAM LINCOLN,  
*President of the United States,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

SIR: The Board convened by the following order:

“EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
“*Washington City, February 6, 1865.*

“Whereas complaints are made in some localities respecting the assignments of quotas and credits allowed for the pending call of troops to fill up the armies: now, in order to determine all controversies in respect thereto, and to avoid any delay in filling up the armies, it is ordered: That the Attorney General, Brigadier General Richard Delafield, and Colonel C. W. Foster, be and they are hereby constituted a Board to examine into the proper quotas and credits of the respective States and districts under the call of December 19, 1864, with directions, if any errors be found therein, to make such corrections as the law and facts may require, and report their determination to the Provost Marshal General. The determination of said Board to be final and conclusive, and the draft to be made in conformity therewith.

“2. The Provost Marshal General is ordered to make the draft in the respective districts as speedily as the same can be done, after the 15th of this month.

“(Signed,) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.”

have respectfully to report as follows :

The call for 300,000 men, made by the President on the 19th of December, 1864, requires that that number shall be raised.

But the law requires that the number of men previously furnished by

different localities, and the periods of their service, shall be considered so as to equalize the draft.

The number of men liable to military duty is to be determined by the enrollment lists.

The number of men which had been furnished by the various localities, and their periods of service, were ascertained, and, previous accounts having been adjusted, the excesses, where they existed, were carried forward under the last draft.

The amount of service furnished is determined by multiplying the number of men raised by the number of years for which they enlisted.

Having thus ascertained the number of men enrolled on the 31st day of December, 1864, the number of men furnished up to that date, the localities from which they come, and the periods of their service, it is proposed to distribute the call for 300,000 men among the several districts, and parts of districts, according to the number enrolled in each and the number of men furnished, and the periods of service previously rendered by each.

The rule by which this is accomplished is as follows:

Take the whole number of years of service furnished by the districts of the United States from the commencement of the rebellion to the 31st of December, 1864. From that sum deduct the whole number of men furnished from all the districts of the United States up to that date. The remainder will be the excess of years of service furnished by all the districts. Multiply the call of December 19, 1864, by three, to have the number of years of service upon that call, and to this add the excess as ascertained above. Then, as the number of men enrolled from the whole United States, up to the 31st of December, 1864, is to the period of service as above ascertained, so is the number of men enrolled in a given district to the number of years of service it is required to furnish, including its *pro rata* share of the excess.

From this sum deduct the actual excess the district furnished; the remainder is the number of years of service which the district is required to furnish under the call of December 19, 1864, which, divided by three, gives the number of men required from the district.

As this call is for 300,000 men, that number cannot be reduced by men going in for a period longer than one year. Inequalities produced by men going in under this call for longer periods than one year must be equalized on future calls.

It will be perceived that though the aggregate of the excess furnished is added to the whole call, the excess of each district is afterwards sub-

tracted from its quota. Thus the number of men called for is neither increased nor diminished, but equality produced, considering the number of men and the periods of their service. Localities which have heretofore furnished a greater amount of service have, in proportion to their enrollment, a less amount to furnish under this, and *e converso*.

Men having heretofore enlisted for one, two, and three years, it was necessary to take one of those periods as the basis of the calculation. As three years embraced both the other periods, it makes the calculation more simply to adopt that. The same result would be arrived at by adopting either one or two years as the basis, but the process of calculation would be more complicated.

Such we find to be the rule adopted by the Provost Marshal General. The rule is in conformity with the requirements of the laws of Congress, and is just and equitable.

We have carefully examined and proved the work done under this rule by the Provost Marshal General, and find that it has been done with fairness.

We file in the Provost Marshal General's Office our calculations of the quota of each and every district endorsed by us as correct.

JAMES SPEED,

*Attorney General of the United States.*

RICHARD DELAFIELD,

*Brig. Gen., and Chief Eng., U. S. A.*

C. W. FOSTER,

*Colonel, and Asst. Adjutant General.*

Approved February 17, 1865.

A. LINCOLN.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

E. D. TOWNSEND,

*Assistant Adjutant General.*

OFFICIAL:

*Assistant Adjutant General.*

